

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Page 6, third paragraph, delete in its entirety, and replace with the following:

A radiation image forming unit according to the present invention has a stimuable phosphor sheet assembly and a ~~case-cassette~~ for storing the stimuable phosphor sheet. The stimuable phosphor sheet or the ~~case-cassette~~ is associated with a removable sheet member of a different material, e.g., a radiation shield plate for blocking scattered rays, a radiation energy separating filter, or the like. If the sheet member of the different material is not required depending on imaging applications and conditions, then the sheet member of the different material may be removed from the radiation image forming unit. Furthermore, sheet members of various different materials having different thicknesses may be used replaceably.

Page 10, third full paragraph, delete in its entirety, and replace with the following:

FIG. 2 is a fragmentary cross-sectional view of a stimuable phosphor sheet assembly of the radiation image forming unit shown in FIG. 1;

Page 12, first full paragraph, delete in its entirety, and replace with the following:

As shown in FIG. 1, the radiation image forming unit 10 comprises a stimuable phosphor sheet assembly 12 and a case (cassette) 14 storing the stimuable phosphor assembly sheet 12. The stimuable phosphor sheet assembly 12 comprises a rectangular phosphor layer 16 serving as a radiation image recording region and a frame 18 covering the four sides of the phosphor layer 16.

Page 13, fourth paragraph (spanning pages 13 and 14), delete in its entirety, and replace with the following:

As shown in FIG. 1, the frame 18 has an end face 34 which serves as a trailing end when the stimuable phosphor sheet assembly 12 is inserted into the case (cassette) 14 in the direction indicated by the arrow A. The end face 34 provides a case (cassette) end face of the case (cassette) 14. The color of the end face 34 is different from the color of the other surfaces for preventing the stimuable phosphor sheet assembly 12 from being inserted into the case (cassette) 14 in a wrong direction.

Page 14, first full paragraph, delete in its entirety, and replace with the following:

The case (cassette) 14 has a rectangular shape and has an opening 36 for inserting and discharging the stimuable phosphor sheet assembly 12 therethrough. When the frame 18 is placed into the case (cassette) 14 through the opening 36, the end face 34 of the frame 18 provides the case (cassette) end face of the case (cassette) 14 (see FIG. 2).

Page 14, second full paragraph, delete in its entirety, and replace with the following:

In FIG. 1, the case (cassette) 14 has a surface 38a exposed to radiation for recording the radiation image information of a subject by an imaging device (not shown), and a reverse surface 38b opposite to the surface 38a. When the stimuable phosphor sheet assembly 12 is placed in the case (cassette) 14, the phosphor layer 16 is positioned near the surface 38a, and the lead sheet 28 is positioned near the reverse surface 38b.

Page 14, fourth full paragraph, delete in its entirety, and replace with the following:

The radiation image forming unit 10 with the stimuable phosphor sheet assembly 12 stored in the case (cassette) 14 is loaded into the non-illustrated imaging device. Then, radiation of image information of a subject (not shown) is applied through the surface 38a of the (cassette) case 14 to the phosphor layer 16 of the stimuable phosphor sheet assembly 12. Thus, the radiation image information of the subject is recorded on the phosphor layer 16.

Page 19, first full paragraph, delete in its entirety, and replace with the following:

The case (cassette) 70 has a casing (frame) 74 for storing a stimuable phosphor sheet 72. A light shield plate 76 is detachably mounted in the casing (frame) 74. The light shield plate 76 has a lid 80 angularly movably attached thereto by a hinge 78. The lid 80 is openably and closably mounted on the casing (frame) 74.

Page 20, third full paragraph, delete in its entirety, and replace with the following:

The case (cassette) 110 comprises a casing (frame) 114 for storing a stimuable phosphor sheet 112 and a lid 116 openably and closably mounted on the casing (frame) 114. The stimuable phosphor sheet 112 placed in the casing 114 has a surface supporting a phosphor layer thereon and facing an inner wall surface of the casing 114. A bar-code label 118 is applied to a reverse surface of the stimuable phosphor sheet 112.